

**COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA**  
**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS POLICY**

**Subject**

Comprehensive Health and Social Service System

**Policy  
Number**

E-10

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**Purpose**

To establish a policy that guides the ongoing planning and delivery of a comprehensive health and social service system.

**Background**

On June 24, 1997 (47), the Board of Supervisors adopted guiding principles to guide the development of the basic organization and structure of the Health and Human Services Agency (Agency). These initial guiding principles became the basis for Article XV of the Administrative Code when the Board of Supervisors adopted it on September 30, 1997 (2) to formally establish the Agency. Article XV created an Agency that integrated the responsibilities and the programs of the previously separate County Departments of Health and Social Services; Area Agency on Aging; Commission on Children, Youth and Families; Veterans Service Office; and, optionally, the Public Administrator/Public Guardian.

Article XV further requires that the Agency's Director administer Agency programs through the principal subdivisions and geographic service regions. It also states that the Agency's services are to be provided in a manner that integrates service administration and delivery, and assures the efficiency, effectiveness, accessibility, and quality of these services.

**Policy**

It is the policy of the Board of Supervisors that, in accordance with County Administrative Code Article XV:

1. Health and human services will be directed at realizing safe, healthy, thriving communities throughout San Diego County for all residents.
2. The services will be those essential to making people's lives safer, healthier and self-sufficient.
3. All program and service activities will be outcome driven.
4. Continuous improvement will be fostered to maximize the efficiency and effectiveness of services.
5. Services will be customer focused and culturally competent.
6. Staff will be assisted in reaching their full potential in the contributions they make to the provision of services.
7. Programs will operate with fiscal responsibility and integrity.

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8. Creativity and initiative in staff performance will be supported.
9. The County will seek to leverage opportunities with its community partners to better serve county residents.

Sunset Date

This policy shall be reviewed for continuance by 3/31/08

Board Actions

2-19-80 (69)

4-20-82 (60)

11-13-84 (7)

2-19-85 (68)

3-1-88 (91)